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Date: Thu, 29 Jul 1999 13:23:49 -0700

To: mcowin@water.ca.gov

From: john hermesman <johnherm@citrus.ucr.edu>

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Folks,

It is essential that more fresh water flow through the delta into the bay to restore habitat for species unique to the fresh water/ocean water mix area. These species are integral to the bay delta environment. I am therefore imploring you that CALFED Bay Delta Program support and implement much more aggressive water conservation practices before deciding to undertake more dam and reservoir construction. The latter are expensive and environmentally deleterious alternatives to conservation.

As agriculture uses over 80% of the state water supply, even a small reduction in the amount lost to evaporation can result in a significant water savings.

Please invest in more efficient technology for reducing evaporation and water demand per acre of (agricultural) land. I am confident that these and similar measures can wring enough additional water out of the system without resorting to dam and reservoir construction.

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